

SEATTLE

LAWYER

A MAGAZINE OF SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW / FALL 2021

IN THIS ISSUE

Four beloved professors retire

New scholarship for justice-impacted students

Breaking up the tech giants

A man in a dark blue suit jacket and black shorts is standing at a black adjustable desk, working on a computer. He is looking at a monitor that displays a photo of a child. The desk has multiple monitors and a keyboard. In the background, there is a dark blue sofa with a dog bed on it. A small dog is sitting on the floor in the foreground.

**THERE'S
NO PLACE
LIKE HOME**

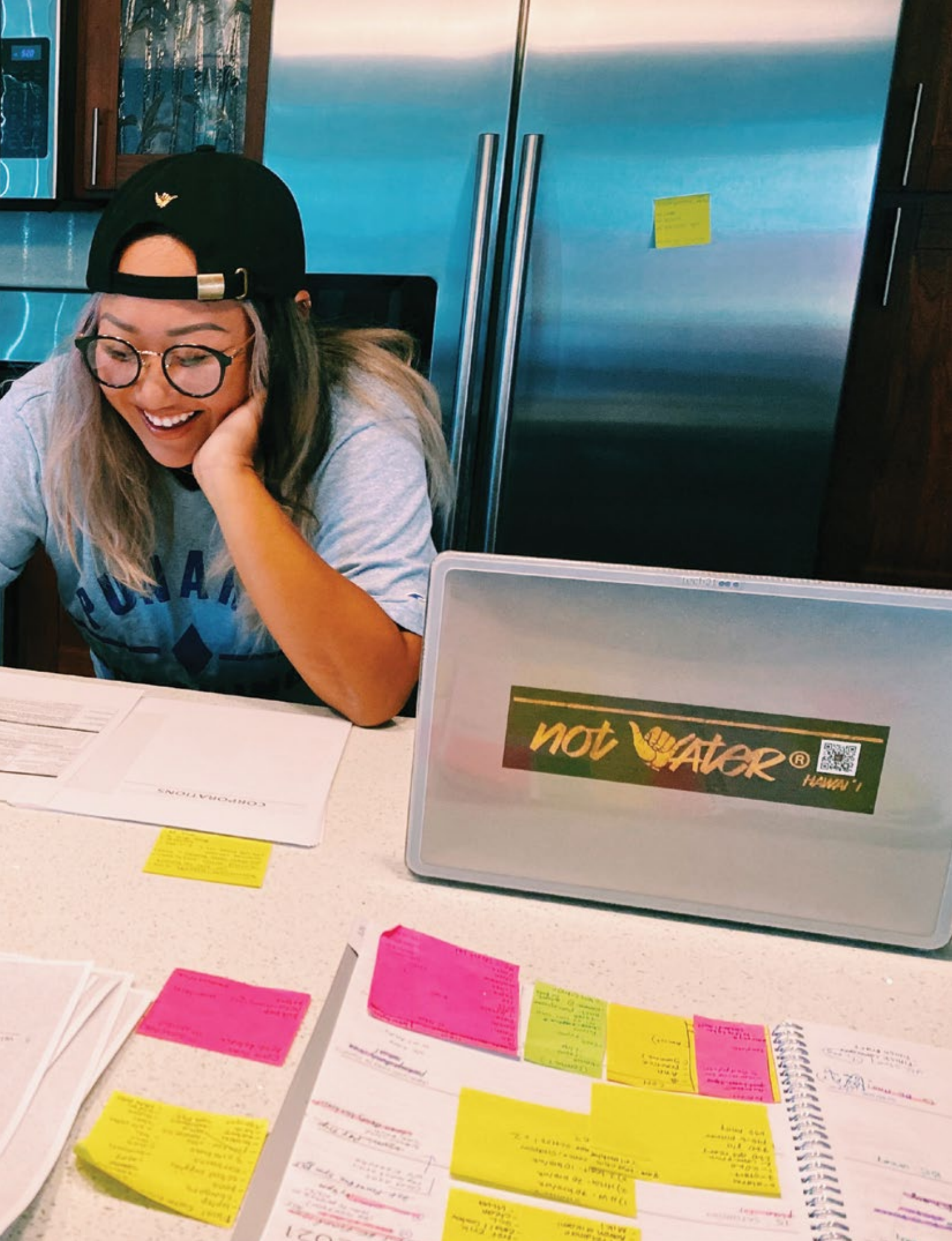
PANDEMIC OR NO PANDEMIC,
ALUMNI CHOOSE TO STAY PUT



A STICKY SITUATION

With the help of highlighters and sticky notes, Kelsey Jandoc '22 balances her responsibilities as a law student, entrepreneur, and podcast host from her kitchen in Honolulu, Hawaii during the law school's full year of remote education.

Photo courtesy of **KELSEY JANDOC**





DEAN'S PERSPECTIVE

This fall marks my 10th and final year as dean of Seattle University School of Law. We're also approaching the law school's momentous 50th anniversary in 2022-23, so it is perhaps not surprising that I am taking a trip down memory lane as I welcome you to this issue of Lawyer magazine.

Many of you know that the deanship is just one chapter in my long history with this extraordinary school. I was a student from 1986 to 1989, when the law school was a part of the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. When I see our students so engaged in their law studies, I can't help but think of my own dear friends Katie Stelter (who has sadly since passed away) and Virginia (Jeany) DeCosta as we studied and laughed together, sharing the exhilaration and exhaustion of law school.

I joined the faculty immediately after graduation to teach civil procedure and health law courses, and to this day, I remember the support and encouragement I received from my fellow professors, many of whom are still my friends and colleagues today. Less than a decade later, I began to explore the challenges and rewards of various administrative roles, eventually leading me to seek the deanship.

I have often described my interest in law school leadership as a calling, and I now feel called to step away and give the next person

a chance to take the reins. After a year-long sabbatical, I will have the opportunity to choose between either returning as a tenured faculty member or retiring from Seattle University. The School of Law is thriving, and I feel strongly that this is the right time for a change, for both the law school and me personally, and I'm excited about what life after deaning will bring. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, please enjoy this issue of the magazine. Now that we're 18 months into the COVID-19 pandemic, with ongoing concerns about new and dangerous variants, we wondered if any of our alumni might switch to working from home permanently. And lo and behold, we found them! These entrepreneurial alumni dare to challenge conventional ideas about what law practice looks like, always keeping the focus where it belongs – on their clients.

Three of the lawyers featured in this story participated in our innovative Incubator Program, which provides the support, mentorship, and community solo lawyers need when they hang their own shingle. So it's no surprise to me that they felt empowered to take additional bold steps in their careers.

You'll also learn about our new Full Circle Scholarship, which will support a law student whose life has been directly impacted by the criminal justice system. The scholarship is made possible by a generous gift from Amanda DuBois '86 and inspired by Tarra Simmons '17 – two powerful advocates for the rights of formerly incarcerated people.

Also, don't miss the feature on the four marvelous professors who retired this year. I'm honored to have learned from and worked with Professors Julie Shapiro, Chris Rideout, Laurel Oates, and Lori Bannai. Their contributions have been as transformational for our law school as they likely were for you, their students.

Thankfully, the law school is resuming in-person instruction in Sullivan Hall for the 2021-22 school year, and we are planning alumni events for this fall, circumstances permitting. I look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible before leaving the deanship in June. Until then, stay in touch and stay safe.

Best,

Annette E. Clark '89

Dean and Professor of Law

LAWYER

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SCHOOL OF LAW / FALL 2021

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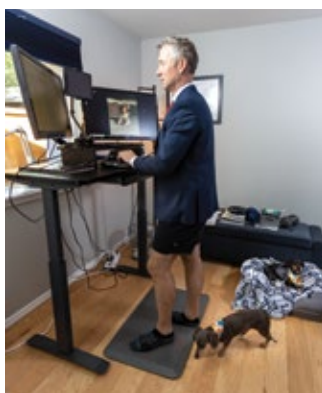
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A unique new scholarship supports law students who have been impacted by the criminal justice system.

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When COVID-19 hit, attorneys everywhere started working from home. Not everyone wants to go back to the office.



Cover John Hardie '15 models the "business up top, comfort down below" style that many attorneys came to enjoy while working virtually. His dogs Sophie and Bella keep him company. (Photo by Matt Hagen)



RETIRING FACULTY BROUGHT PASSION, CREATIVITY TO EDUCATION

The close of the 2020-21 academic year brought the retirements of several beloved and influential faculty – Professors Laurel Currie Oates ’78, J. Christopher Rideout, Lorraine Bannai, and Julie Shapiro, each of whom was granted emeritus status by Seattle University. The four faculty members represent a cumulative 130 years of experience at the law school. Each fostered essential skills and values in the students they taught.

All of them joined the faculty when the school was still affiliated with University of Puget Sound (UPS) in Tacoma. Together, Oates and Rideout founded the law school’s renowned Legal Writing Program in the early 1980s, which Bannai joined in 1996. Shapiro taught family law and civil procedure.

Each of them brought a personal touch to their teaching that made them memorable and highly effective.

Shapiro asked her students to write letters to themselves in their first few days of law school, which she delivered back to them one year later. Rideout waved a magic wand over his graduating students, proclaiming them to be “real lawyers,” Pinocchio-style. Bannai shared her passion and life’s work on the issue of Japanese American incarceration during World War II. Oates offered her vision that legal writing is so much more than just punctuation and grammar.

In fact, Oates led the law school’s rise to national prominence in the field of legal writing. In the years since U.S. News and World Report started ranking the nation’s legal writing programs in 2005, Seattle University School of Law has ranked first or second 14 times.

Oates directed the Legal Writing Program from 1982 to 2012. She wrote or co-wrote the nation’s top legal writing

textbooks, including “The Legal Writing Handbook” (now in its eighth edition). Over her career, she received numerous accolades for teaching and scholarship, and led legal writing workshops in several countries.

“The main thing I want students to remember is audience and purpose,” she said. “That will help guide all of the many decisions they need to make in the process of doing research and writing.”

Her former students include Dean Annette Clark ’89. “Laurel was a marvelous teacher – one of the best,” Clark said. “She helped me gain confidence in my writing and opened my eyes to the fact that you don’t need to be the loudest person in the room in order to be a powerful legal advocate.”

Oates’s vision for the academic discipline of legal writing took hold nationally and she became a leading figure in the field. She and Rideout organized the country’s first-ever legal writing educators’ conference in 1984, which was followed by dozens more over the years. They also co-founded the Legal Writing Institute, which now has more than 2,100 members in 38 countries. Rideout served as the institute’s first chairperson and was



Left to right: Professors Laurel Currie Oates '78, J. Christopher Rideout, Lorraine Bannai, and Julie Shapiro

the founding editor of its academic journal, *Legal Writing*, starting in 1990.

Rideout began his career as an English professor at UPS but was recruited to the law school by Dean Fredric Tausend in 1981, when an especially large class of first-year law students created an unexpected need for additional legal writing faculty.

Though not a lawyer himself, Rideout saw tremendous potential in the opportunity because he understood that lawyers had to be excellent communicators. “Laurel and I agreed, right off the bat, that the writing program was the place for 1Ls to learn how to think like a lawyer, as well as how to write like a lawyer,” he said.

Rideout’s highly subscribed classes also emphasized the craft of storytelling in legal writing and encouraged students to see the connections between law and literature. The advanced third-year electives he taught – legal rhetoric, narrative, style, and voice – are unusual in legal education.

“Professor Rideout consistently brought care for students and a passion for language and legal storytelling into the classes that I took with him, and now I try to bring those things into my teaching of legal writing,” said Amanda Elyse ’15, visiting assistant professor of lawyering skills.

Bannai found the discipline of legal writing to be an ideal setting to instill the values of civility and commitment to justice.

“We’re talking about communication, about representing clients and treating them in a professional manner,” she said. “Legal writing very much lends itself to teaching professionalism and how to approach law in a way that’s about trying to achieve justice as opposed to just winning.”

Prior to teaching, Bannai had been in private practice and was on the legal team that successfully reopened the case of Fred T. Korematsu, who challenged the constitutionality of his incarceration as a Japanese American during World War II. Though the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against him in 1944, Bannai and her fellow lawyers revived his case in the early 1980s and helped him achieve vindication, simultaneously exposing the racist motivations at work during the war.

Bannai has been a faithful caretaker of Korematsu’s legacy ever since. In 2008, it was her suggestion to name Seattle U Law’s civil rights center after Fred Korematsu, and she has since served as its director.

Her additional advocacy has consisted of writing an acclaimed biography of Korematsu, authoring amicus briefs in race discrimination cases, and serving as the driving force behind an effort to award honorary degrees to Japanese Americans who, as students in 1942, were forced to withdraw from their studies at Seattle University and report for incarceration.

Justin Loveland ’20, now an international human rights attorney, said reading Bannai’s book as an incoming law student made him look forward to having her as his Legal Writing teacher, and he later became her research assistant. “The

impacts of that experience have stayed with me and helped guide my professional life,” he said.

Students also found lifelong value in Shapiro’s classroom, where they learned so much more than civil procedure.

“From the very beginning of my teaching, I wanted the students to think about what it was going to be like for them to be a lawyer,” she said. “For me, in practice, the hardest part of the job was being true to who I was. It was really a moral question; it was about my sense of my own integrity.”

In the classroom, she created opportunities for self-reflection for her students. “She taught me how to question, how to assess, how to think about what it meant to practice law, and how to understand our profession’s impact on those we agree to serve,” said Melanie Curtice ’98, deputy general counsel for a Seattle-based health care company.

In addition to teaching, Shapiro assisted the Northwest Women’s Law Center (now Legal Voice) in numerous lesbian and gay family law cases, including *In re L.B.*, which established the rights of de facto parents in the state of Washington, and *Andersen v. King County*, the case challenging Washington’s Defense of Marriage Act.

Shapiro reflected the views of all four faculty retirees when she said that nothing beats the feeling of watching students graduate and go on to fulfilling legal careers.

“If they find it rewarding and gratifying, it makes me feel thrilled to have been part of that personal and professional formation,” she said.

Read more about each retiring faculty member at law.seattleu.edu.

FLEX JD PROGRAM NOW OFFERS ONLINE ACCESS FOR PART-TIME LAW STUDENTS

Significant changes to the law school's part-time program will provide greater access and make it more feasible for students with work and family commitments to earn a law degree.

The school's highly ranked part-time program is now the Flex JD Program, which officially launched this past August. Most courses are delivered in a hybrid format that combines online components with a small number of immersive, campus-based sessions. Summer coursework is entirely online.

"We're taking this bold step because we think this is the future of part-time legal education," said Dean Annette Clark '89. "With applications to Flex JD up 100 percent compared to last year, this format is proving to be particularly

attractive to busy working professionals who might not otherwise be able to attend law school."

The structure of the in-person class sessions – concentrated into a few weekends during fall and spring semesters – limits the amount of required travel to campus. This new modality for providing part-time legal education provides greater accessibility to students who live outside the Puget Sound region and even out of the state, yet still enables students to build critically important connections with their fellow students and professors.

Flex JD students will also be able to participate in the school's clinics, externships, and renowned Legal Writing Program, which features highly personalized coaching and feedback.

"Our commitment to high-quality experiential education will carry over to this innovative format for our longstanding part-time program," Clark said. "Feedback in legal writing and supervision in clinics will be as frequent and as closely tailored to each student's needs as it is now and always has been."

The program is taught by Seattle U Law's distinguished faculty, who have developed a values-based curriculum integrating social justice concepts, which cultivates future lawyers who are committed to justice, dignity, and equity.

Other opportunities available to students to round out their law school experience include joining one of four student-run law journals; participating in Moot Court or Alternative Dispute Resolution programs; and becoming active in a variety of student organizations, including the Student Bar Association, Public Interest Law Foundation, and the Business and Entrepreneurship Law Association.

The online components of the 3.5-year program will feature two types of learning: asynchronous activities that consist of readings, pre-recorded lectures, discussion threads and other endeavors that students complete on their own; and online synchronous components such as live virtual classes, where students can engage with faculty and fellow students in real time.

This new and innovative version of Seattle U Law's part-time program has received acquiescence (approval) by the American Bar Association Council, which administers standards for legal education.

"Thanks to an innovative curriculum that we tailored specifically to a hybrid-online format, we believe this program will create a path to a law degree for many more students, including individuals from non-traditional and diverse backgrounds, enabling them to access legal education and advance their careers without disrupting their lives," Clark said.





LAW SCHOOL NAMES NEW ACTING DIRECTOR OF RENOWNED LEGAL CLINIC

Carwina Weng joined Seattle University School of Law this summer as a visiting clinical professor and acting director of the Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic. Attracted to the school's reputation for experiential education, strong commitment to social justice, and student-centered focus, Weng is responsible for leading a clinical law program that is ranked in the top 25 nationally.

Her one-year appointment began July 1, with the opportunity to take on the role permanently next year.

This year "will be an exciting time to teach at Seattle U Law. The national focus on race and systemic oppression will provide an opportunity to better infuse anti-racism ideas and skills, along with equity and creativity, throughout the school's amazing clinical program," Weng said.

"Professor Weng is everything we want in a professor and clinic leader. With her exceptional teaching experience, expertise in clinical practice and clinic management, and dedication to serving students and clients, I am confident that she will bring new ideas and approaches that will strengthen a clinical program that is already one of the nation's best," said Dean Annette Clark '89.

Weng's path to clinical law teaching was inspired by one of her own clinical law professors at New York University School of Law, where she earned a JD degree with honors. "I find the study of how we lawyer effectively and how we teach students fascinating," she said. "The only way lawyers can show they have mastered what has been taught is by practicing law, which is why clinics are so vital to students' legal education."

Weng comes to Seattle U Law from Indiana University Maurer School of Law, where she has been a clinical professor of law since 2006, when she started the Disability Law Clinic. She was responsible for leading the Community Legal Clinic, a general legal services clinic that provides advice to disadvantaged residents of southeastern Indiana. A nationally recognized expert in clinical legal teaching, Weng is the lead author of the 2019 book, "Learning Law Through Experience and By Design."

Beginning in 2017, she has made annual visits to Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University in Kaliningrad, Russia, to teach clinical law skills as a visiting professor. Previously, she held assistant professor positions at Boston College Law School and Florida Coastal School of Law.

Weng's practice experience includes stints with two legal services organizations. At Greater Boston Legal Services, she served as a senior attorney and focused on family law. At the Legal Aid Society Community Law Offices in New York City, she handled eviction defense, government benefits, and family law cases as a staff attorney.

LLSA HONORS THREE CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE

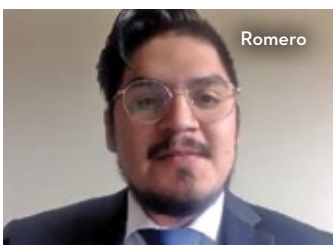
The **Latinx Law Student Association (LLSA)** honored three powerful advocates within the Seattle U Law community at the Latinx Alumni and Community Awards Reception in April, held via Zoom.

Alex Romero '19, an Equal Justice Works fellow serving immigrants in Eastern Washington with Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, received La Justicia Alumni Award. The award honors a law school graduate whose contributions to the law school community, as well as the greater community, embody the principles of standing for excellence and reaching for justice.

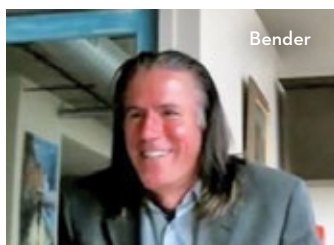
Professor Steven Bender received an award named for his treasured colleague and friend, the late Professor Joaquin Avila. The award recognizes an individual whose commitment to mentorship and advocacy has helped LLSA grow as an organization.

Frederick Schouviller '17, a staff attorney with Colectiva Legal Del Pueblo, received the Spirit of Service Award for his efforts to promote equal representation in the legal system and his advocacy on behalf of underrepresented people.

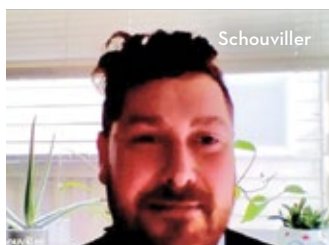
Miguel Willis '17, now Innovator in Residence at University of Pennsylvania's Future of the Profession Institute, gave keynote remarks about the importance of persistence, compassion, and solidarity in the pursuit of justice.



Romero



Bender



Schouviller

APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to the following alumni recently appointed to the bench in the state of Washington:

Joseph Evans '05

PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

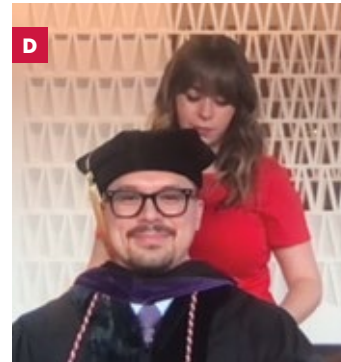
Jason Poydras '05

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Matthew J. Segal '99

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

THE BRIEFCASE



SPRING COMMENCEMENT FEATURES REFLECTIONS ON RESILIENCE, TRANSFORMATION

Seattle U Law's Spring 2021 Commencement Ceremony, held virtually due to ongoing concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic, was filled with heartwarming videos of home hooding ceremonies and deep gratitude toward classmates and colleagues for resilience and patience during such challenging times.

"You have achieved more than any of our graduating classes that came before you because you have persisted in your law studies through unprecedented disruption and upheaval," said Dean Annette Clark '89, citing not only the pandemic but also the national movement for racial justice and dramatic political upheaval.

"I genuinely believe that your contributions to the world, and your professional successes as lawyers, will be because of the lives you've led and the challenges you've faced and overcome, and not in spite of them," she said.

Student Speaker Monica La Keo '21 praised her classmates for uplifting each other during difficult times. "I'm most proud of our class for paving the way, and being support systems for our peers," she said.

In her remarks as the 2021 Outstanding Faculty Awardee, Professor Deborah Ahrens recalled the early days of her legal career just after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. "How do you know you're living through a transformational time?" she asked. "You

don't. You make the time transformational by how you respond to it."

Finally, Judge Sabrina Ahrens '01 of Pierce County Superior Court welcomed graduates to the law school's wide-ranging alumni community with the advice to "be true to yourself, be true to your client, and above all, be civil."

- A.** Brittany Jones '21 was hooded with help from her husband, Delifus, and daughter.
- B.** Amanda Simantov '21 was hooded by alumna Joleen Hughes '99 of Hughes Media Law Group, where Simantov now works.
- C.** Won Jin Lee '21 celebrated with siblings outside.
- D.** Alejandro Monarrez '21 was hooded at home by his wife, Iliana.
- E.** Student Speaker Monica La Keo '21 shot her hooding video with her fiancé, Grant.

STUDENTS, GRADUATES EARN NOTABLE FELLOWSHIPS

Several students and recent graduates were honored with legal fellowships in 2021, serving as advocates for workers and immigrants.

Gabi Nava '20 received a prestigious two-year fellowship from Equal Justice Works (EJW) to work with Aldea – The People’s Justice Center in Reading, Pennsylvania, where she advocates for families seeking asylum.

As part of her fellowship, which is sponsored by Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Nava files federal tort claim actions on behalf of asylum seekers who suffered violations of their civil and human rights at the hands of federal agents. She also helps develop Aldea’s impact litigation program in partnership with law firm pro bono partners to challenge policies that hurt asylum-seeking families, such as forced separation of children from their parents.

“The U.S. immigration system has created a human rights crisis that needs to be addressed immediately,” Nava said. “The asylum-seeking families that have been harmed by the U.S. government need legal advocates to take up this fight.”

Nava was one of 77 EJW fellows for 2021, selected from a pool of more than 400 applicants. EJW is the nation’s largest facilitator of opportunities in public interest law.

Peggy Rodriguez '21 received the Essential Worker Fellowship with the Unemployment Law Project, a statewide

nonprofit law firm established to advise and represent unemployed workers. The fellowship is designed to address the needs of workers harmed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rodriguez will assist food service workers who have been denied unemployment benefits, focusing on community outreach and direct representation of workers in hearings.

The one-year fellowship is funded by Seattle University School of Law’s Access to Justice Institute (ATJI), the Unemployment Law Project (ULP), the Latino/a Bar Association of Washington, the Loren Miller Bar Association, and the Asian Bar Association of Washington.

Rodriguez, who had a decade of experience as an hourly food and beverage worker prior to her legal career, said she was inspired by ULP’s mission after referring an unemployed barber to them for help.

“Two weeks later, he received all his late benefits, and the issue was remedied. He was beyond grateful, and that help completely turned things around for him after months of dead ends,” she said.

Third-year students **Anna Mendoza** and **Lindsey Franklin** both received

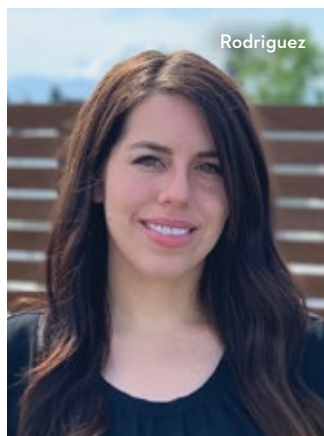
summer 2021 fellowships from the Peggy Browning Fund. This highly competitive program, which drew more than 700 applications for 80 spots, supports law students as they pursue public interest careers in labor law. Seattle University was one of only 16 law schools in the country with two or more Peggy Browning Fund fellows.

Mendoza’s fellowship placed her with the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) in Washington, D.C., where she researched judicial nominations and federal policy recommendations for improving workers’ rights during the organizing process. Prior to law school, Mendoza was active as a labor organizer in Los Angeles, including a successful campaign to protect home care workers.

Franklin spent the summer working for the National Employment Lawyers Association in Washington, D.C., working on federal workers’ rights legislation and federal judicial nominations. Her interest in labor law stems from personal experience with wage theft and workplace harassment, and she previously worked with labor groups in Oregon to enact COVID-19 protections for workers.



Nava



Rodriguez



Mendoza



Franklin

REP. LAURIE JINKINS '90 HONORED AS WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2021

The law school and Seattle University Womxn's Law Caucus honored Rep. Laurie Jinkins '90, Washington's Speaker of the House, with the 2021 Woman of the Year award during an online ceremony in March.

In accepting the award, Jinkins reflected on her time in law school and called on others in the legal profession to welcome creative change and diversity. "Diverse voices always, always create better solutions for Washingtonians," she said.

Jinkins made history in January 2020 when she became Washington state's first woman and first out lesbian Speaker of the House. She represents the 27th Legislative District in Pierce County. Before holding elected office, she worked in health policy and was active in advancing Washington's anti-discrimination laws.

Jinkins began her legal career litigating child abuse and neglect cases for the state Attorney General's Office. She then shifted to public health, eventually serving as an assistant secretary of health at the state Department of Health, before taking the position of Director of Organizational Initiatives at the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, where she continues to serve.

The Womxn's Law Caucus also awarded students Peyton Jacobsen and Vanesa Hernandez-Rodriguez the Kellye Testy Scholarship in recognition of their leadership abilities. Majidah Cochran received the inaugural Justice G. Helen Whitener Scholarship, created in partnership with the Seattle University Black Law Student Association to uplift and honor law students dedicated to social justice and their communities.

Laurie Jinkins '90 made history on January 13, 2020, when she became Washington state's first woman and first out lesbian Speaker of the House.





PRESIDENT PEÑALVER WELCOMES LAW STUDENTS TO SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

In his first address to students since becoming Seattle University's leader in July, President Eduardo Peñalver welcomed the School of Law's incoming students with an inspiring reminder about the role lawyers play in society.

"By pursuing your legal education, you'll learn powerful new ways to participate in these conversations" about how to create a fair and just society, he said.

"These are challenging times, to be sure. These are the kinds of times, though, that afford you the opportunity for tremendous growth and courage and accomplishment," he said. "Lawyers participated in and contributed to every significant social movement. Earlier generations of lawyers have helped us to wring a great deal of injustice out of our laws but there's always and still so much more to do."

Peñalver, a member of the law school's faculty and former dean of Cornell Law School, spoke to students on the second day of orientation, which also featured welcomes from Dean Annette Clark '89 and Washington Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu.

There are 233 students in the law school's incoming class of first-year students – 188 in the

full-time program, and 45 in the newly launched part-time Flex JD.

For years, the law school has been the Pacific Northwest's most diverse law school, and this year is no different. Thirty-five percent of the incoming class are Black, indigenous, or people of color. Sixty-four percent are women, 34% are men, and 2% are nonbinary. Twenty-one percent are LGBTQ+.

The class includes 70 students who are first-generation college students, which is 30% of incoming students. Roughly 5% are veterans.

About two-thirds of the new students are from Washington state. They represent 124 undergraduate colleges and universities, including Seattle University, University of Washington, Dartmouth College, Stanford University, University of California at Berkeley, and Vassar College.

Noting that the students come from a wide array of professional backgrounds and lived experiences – from musicians to engineers to political activists – Clark promised that "we, as a law school, have endeavored to create an umbrella that is wide enough to hold and to embrace each of you."

Seattle University President Eduardo Peñalver, accompanied by Dean Annette Clark '89, chats with law students Christine Sohn '23 (far right) and Adriana Clifton '23 (second from right) before addressing incoming first-year students at orientation. (Photos by Seattle University Photographer Yosef Chaim Kalinko)



Tarra Simmons '17 (left) and Amanda DuBois '86 (right) met with Sen. Patty Murray as part of Civil Survival's efforts to help lawmakers understand the needs of people who've been formerly incarcerated. (Photo courtesy of Amanda DuBois '86)

NEW SCHOLARSHIP HELPS FORMERLY INCARCERATED STUDENTS COME FULL CIRCLE

There's a timeless proverb that if you give someone a fish, they eat for a day; teach them to fish and they eat for a lifetime.

Amanda DuBois '86 applies that same logic to formerly incarcerated people struggling with the lingering harmful effects of the criminal justice system, such as housing and employment discrimination. If you give them a lawyer, you help only them. "If you train a formerly incarcerated person, or a directly impacted person, to be a lawyer, they can use those tools to help so many other people," DuBois said.

Thanks to DuBois's advocacy and generosity, Seattle University School of Law launched the Full Circle Scholarship, which provides \$5,000 each year to a student whose life has been directly impacted by the criminal justice system, with a preference for students who have been incarcerated themselves. Future donations will allow the scholarship to expand to more students.

It appears that this is only the second law school scholarship of its kind (New York University School of Law offers similar tuition support as part of its Prison Reform and Education Project).

DuBois, who runs a thriving family law practice in Seattle's Fremont neighborhood, was inspired to create and fund the scholarship by her friend Tarra Simmons '17, who attended Seattle U Law after serving 20 months in prison.

Though Simmons excelled as a student, the Washington State Bar Association ruled that she lacked the character and fitness necessary to sit for the bar exam, a decision she successfully appealed to the Washington Supreme Court. She is now an attorney, a program director at the Public Defender Association, and a state representative.

"Tarra is a trailblazer," DuBois said. "She broke down barriers and that will make it easier for the law students who follow her."

Simmons said the Full Circle Scholarship will help to ensure that people most

“There are thousands of laws that hurt formerly incarcerated people. I’m a lawyer, so I figured we can change these laws. The question that I always ask myself is, ‘How can I best leverage my privilege?’ Because I’ve been super lucky in life.” – AMANDA DUBOIS ’86

affected by mass incarceration, legal debt, and barriers to housing and employment are in the best position to create policy changes. For example, because of her own struggle to regain her voting rights, the first bill Simmons sponsored and helped pass as a legislator automatically restores voting rights to Washingtonians once they’re released from prison.

“People who have survived the criminal legal system bring a perspective that benefits the legal profession, and they need to be centered in efforts at reform,” she said. “I look forward to sharing my experience with the scholarship recipients, as we continue to tell our stories and remove stigma.”

For DuBois, the scholarship’s creation follows more than a decade of allyship with formerly incarcerated people. After writing a series of “how to” books on dealing with common legal issues, she heard from readers that their criminal records prevented them from finding work, securing housing, or handling many other seemingly simple life tasks.

“There are thousands of laws that hurt formerly incarcerated people. I’m a lawyer, so I figured we can change these laws,” DuBois said. “The question that I always ask myself is, ‘How can I best leverage my privilege?’ Because I’ve been super lucky in life.”

To that end, she created Civil Survival, an advocacy organization that holds workshops for people with criminal records, teaching them how to advocate for change by sharing their personal stories in meetings with elected officials.

Simmons attended one of those workshops as a law student and a powerful

partnership was born. Together, Simmons and DuBois grew Civil Survival into an influential network of advocates. The organization has since become part of the Public Defender Association, with Simmons as its director. DuBois passed the torch and moved on to other projects, such as the scholarship.

Over the years, DuBois said she’s met many justice-impacted people interested in becoming lawyers. In fact, for three years in a row, she has made a point of introducing potential students to Dean Annette Clark ’89 by purchasing a particular Public Interest Law Foundation Auction item – a homemade Greek dinner at Clark’s home – and inviting the aspiring lawyers to the party.

These future lawyers have the personal experience, the determination, and the passion, DuBois said, but they’re hesitant about taking on debt. The scholarship is intended to ease that burden.

For help in naming the scholarship, DuBois reached out to her friend Glenn Martin, entrepreneur and founder of JustLeadership-USA, which aims to cut the number of incarcerated people in the U.S. in half by 2030.

Martin said the name is an acknowledgment that prison sentences strip

individuals of their rights and human dignity, but there is no comparable effort to “welcome them back to humanity” when their sentences are completed.

“All human beings have the ability to repair harm and be restored, and if our criminal justice system won’t acknowledge that, then the Full Circle Scholarship can help leaders to shed the toxic shame associated with a criminal record,” he said.

Clark said the scholarship will help make the law school an even more welcoming environment for students who can use their personal experience with the criminal justice system to become powerful advocates for others.

“We were all changed for the better by having Tarra in our Seattle U Law community, and we’re so thankful that Amanda’s generosity will introduce us to more students with the same fire for justice,” she said.



After fighting for her right to take the bar exam despite her criminal record, Simmons passed the exam and was sworn in as an attorney in a ceremony at Seattle University’s Pigott Auditorium in June 2018. (Photo courtesy of Laura Anglin ’99)

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

ALUMNI FIND
UNEXPECTED BENEFITS
AND PROFESSIONAL
SATISFACTION IN
WORKING REMOTELY

BY CLAUDINE BENMAR

John Hardie '15 said he prefers a standing desk for virtual court hearings because it doesn't feel right to address a judge while sitting down. (Photo by Matt Hagen)





Clockwise: Drew Falkenstein '02 works from rural Kentucky as a food safety litigator with Seattle-based law firm Marler Clark. Brett Kobes '15 installed a ring light for video calls and transformed one wall of his home office into a dry erase board as part of his efforts to create a productive work space at home. Elena Yager '16 said her clients, primarily domestic violence survivors, prefer remote hearings and attorney meetings.

Ten years ago, Drew Falkenstein '02 faced a dilemma. The woman he loved was in Kentucky. The job he loved, and had thrived in for seven years, was in Seattle. His girlfriend (now wife) couldn't move west, so he moved his job east.

Long before the COVID-19 pandemic compelled attorneys to work from home, Falkenstein was home by choice, practicing as a food safety litigator for Seattle-based Marler Clark LLP, PS, from his five-acre property outside Louisville.

"The remote environment really suits my personality. At home, I can sit for hours on end and just get laser focused and maintain that focus, with no interruptions or intrusions," he said. "From a career standpoint, it's helped me progress as a lawyer."

As vaccines offer hope that the pandemic might finally be abating or at least becoming manageable after a year and a half, some lawyers eagerly welcome the return to office life and colleague camaraderie. But others have discovered what Falkenstein has known for a while: there's no place like home.

The tremendous disruptions wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic have left many wondering what "normal" will look like when and if the pandemic finally ends. Lawyers are no exception. How will a profession so steeped in tradition and resistant to change adapt to pressure from younger attorneys – and possibly even clients – who prefer more technology and less face-to-face interaction?

Many law firms and attorney work-places planned for a return to the office in early fall of 2021. Some firms proposed part-time remote schedules, while others have wrestled with whether to require their employees to be vaccinated.

The American Bar Association, acknowledging both the popularity and inevitability of increased remote work,

updated its ethics guidelines for lawyers in March 2021 to include issues such as competence with technology, client confidentiality (considering new and unfamiliar communication methods), and adequate supervision of remote staff.

"I don't see us ever going back to the way it was," said Bill Marler '87, managing partner at Marler Clark, who in June asked his attorneys and staff to return to the office at least two days per week.

"They like being home. And I can't say that productivity is down at all," he said. "I'm trying to be logical about how we take this next step toward going back to the office."

Marler's firm already had three fully remote employees, including Falkenstein, so he's less wary of remote work than some managing partners might be.

BENEFITS OF STAYING REMOTE

A May 2021 Bloomberg News poll found that 39 percent of U.S. adults would consider quitting if their employers didn't allow at least some remote work. That figure jumped to 49 percent for millennials and Gen Zers.

Jessica Lewis '16 and Elena Yager '16, the co-founders and sole attorneys at the nonprofit law firm Northwest Advocacy Foundation, didn't need permission to go fully remote for good. As the pandemic stretched from weeks into months and they got used to working that way, the benefits just clearly outweighed any drawbacks.

Lengthy commutes disappeared. They saved money on office rent. They wore comfortable clothes. They had more time for hobbies and pets. Yager, who started gardening while working from home, has enjoyed a bounty of fresh veggies. Clients, too, were happier.

Bill Marler '87, managing partner at Marler Clark, implemented a hybrid schedule for his staff and attorneys so they could keep working from home part-time.





“Once we had all the processes in place, and we established boundaries between work life and personal life, it was a no-brainer,” Lewis said.

Both also moved homes during the pandemic, and their larger spaces eliminated any lingering desire to go back to the office. They committed to working from home permanently in the spring of 2021.

In fact, Lewis is convinced she wouldn’t have been able to buy her current house if she didn’t have the flexibility that comes with working from home. “The Seattle housing market is bonkers,” she said. “If a house gets posted, you have to go look at it right away.”

Tacoma-based Palace Law, where John Hardie ’15 is the managing attorney for the personal injury team, went fully remote after seeing how well it worked during the pandemic.

“There’s been no drop in productivity whatsoever. We’re still moving cases, we’re still engaging clients,” Hardie said. “We found we could do just about everything we did before. In fact, the face-to-face meetings, even on Zoom, have become less necessary. We’re able to get clients on board really quickly in this environment.”

The one thing he’s not doing that he did before is driving. His daily commute to the office stretched nearly an hour and a half round-trip, and “that’s a lot of windshield time,” he said.

By working from home, Hardie has had more time to spend with his wife and baby daughter, Ariela, as well as their two dogs, one of whom developed terminal lymphoma and has been undergoing chemotherapy. At his feet is a dog bed where his dachshunds, Sophie and Bella, can snooze while he’s working. His wife, Evelyn, works down the hall. His mother-in-law takes care of their daughter upstairs.

“It’s been priceless, this time with them,” he said. “Time is a precious, non-renewable resource.”

Brett Kobes ’18, who went fully remote with his law practice a few months before the pandemic hit, agreed. He recently got to watch his daughter, Charley, take her first steps. That might not have happened if he had been working in an office.

SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Attorneys face some unique challenges in a remote work environment. Perhaps the most critical is maintaining client confidentiality. All phone or video conversations concerning legal representation must take place out of earshot of other members of the household.

Practice management software designed for remote offices can help protect legal records, as can cloud-based document storage. Lewis researched secure messaging software she and Yager could use to discuss cases since they couldn’t chat face-to-face in the office. They also make sure not to use their home addresses on any work correspondence, instead using (with permission) the office where they formerly subleased their space.

Kobes upgraded his home internet connection and segregated his work and personal wireless networks so there would be no crossover.

When and if remote attorneys go back to meeting with clients in person, he said, options exist – such as meeting rooms in public libraries or renting conference rooms at other brick and mortar law firms – to ensure privacy without asking a client to come to the attorney’s home.

Kobes has been fine without in-house tech support, he said, because customer support for the software he uses – Clio for practice management and Microsoft's Azure for other services – has been so responsive to his questions.

He was also an early adopter of the ring light, which helps create a more professional and evenly lit appearance on video calls. "I've been telling everybody to get one," he said, laughing.

Hardie also invested in a convertible sit-stand desk for his basement workspace, which has been ergonomically beneficial but also creates the right mindset for video trials or hearings. "It feels unnatural to address a judge while sitting down," he said.

WHAT DO CLIENTS THINK?

Across the board, alumni working from home said their clients have been accepting of the less conventional practice set-up.

"I used to think an office was important for my own credibility, that clients needed to see the bookshelves full of law books and the mahogany doors," Hardie said. "But that's just not the case."

When Kobes left a law firm job to strike out on his own, 10 of his clients went with him. "They had no idea I didn't have an office," he said. "A few months later, when COVID hit, it wasn't a problem that I didn't have an office, because nobody was going to the office anymore."

Now he has a converted bedroom in his North Bend home. Paper files are stored in the closet, and he painted a wall to create a giant dry erase board. He keeps three laptops on his desk to manage both his personal injury practice and his work as assistant general counsel for a Bellevue consulting firm.

Clients have been more willing to hire work-from-home attorneys because the pandemic has created a new normal, as evidenced by the countless happy hours, family reunions, and graduation ceremonies people have attended by video over the last 18 months. Expectations have changed. Some clients even like seeing a cat, dog, or kid in the background (though attorneys try hard to prevent these interruptions during virtual court appearances!).

At times, a video call is not only acceptable but preferable.

Northwest Advocacy Foundation works almost exclusively with victims of domestic violence. "We were worried that they wouldn't feel comfortable sharing sensitive personal information with someone who was just a face on a screen," Yager said. "But we've found the exact opposite. Our clients are happy they don't have to come downtown. They don't have to arrange for childcare. It's easier to meet discreetly. It's been very positive."

For Marler and Falkenstein, in-person client meetings were a non-issue because the firm was already serving clients with food safety cases throughout the country. "Clients only come to our office if they're in Seattle on vacation," Marler said.

Of course, for some types of law practice, working from home just isn't an option. Criminal defense lawyers, for example, must meet with incarcerated clients in jail. This was especially

unnerving early in the pandemic, before face coverings were widely available and when social distancing was nearly impossible. Jails and prisons, predictably, became virus hotspots.

Law firm executives have also expressed concern that it's much harder in a remote environment to replicate the longstanding tradition of new attorneys apprenticing with an experienced lawyer. And, frankly, working from home might not be ideal for extroverted people, Falkenstein said.

"This is going to suit some people and not others," he said. "It's fine for me because I'm an introvert."

Kobes, though, is an avowed extrovert – his background was in sales and customer relations before law school – yet he has thrived at home. That's because he sees a direct connection between the effort he puts in to building his practice and the rewards he reaps from those cases, minus the cost of leasing office space. For solo practitioners, those expenses add up.

"To me, this arrangement encourages an entrepreneurial spirit," he said. "I'll go out and get cases. I'll stay hungry."

FUTURE REMOTE COURT OPTIONS

It's unclear the extent to which courts will accommodate remote legal representation when society fully reopens. By the summer of 2021, King County Superior Court had a backlog of thousands of criminal cases, which have to be held in person both for security reasons and to maintain a defendant's constitutional rights. Some civil jury trials were held by Zoom or in socially distanced courtrooms, but the civil case backlog is substantial as well.

Even as in-person trials return, many attorneys hope that certain procedures, such as depositions and hearings, will continue to have a remote option.

"When our clients have to go in person for a protection order, their abuser is in the courtroom with them. They ride the elevator with their abuser. They walk into the parking lot with their abuser," Yager said. "So for them, a remote option is wonderful."

It also saves clients money. Pre-pandemic, a hearing could last an entire morning, even though lawyers spent most of the time waiting with their clients for a small window of time before the judge. Even that passive time ends up on the bill.

"The pandemic forced courts to figure out technology, and as a result, it's a better experience for everyone," Lewis said.

Before returning to business as usual, Kobes said the lessons learned should always be in the back of an attorney's mind.

"The next time you enter into a lease at \$6,000 a month in downtown Seattle or Bellevue, you have to consider that this may not be an office you can use if there's a new variant or another lockdown," he said.

"I think the pandemic should have changed people's business model, or at least the way we look at things. We all liked normal. But we're not going back to normal. I think this has changed us, whether we want it to or not."



A VISION REALIZED

General Counsel role at Vulcan Inc., Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen's company, allows Alison Ivey '97 to engage in meaningful work

BY DAVID SANDLER



Photo courtesy of Alison Ivey '97

On the surface, the legal issues that cross the desk of Alison Ivey '97, general counsel at Vulcan, have little in common with each other. Her expertise has helped mount a medical and humanitarian response to an Ebola virus outbreak, address homelessness in Seattle, make art accessible for public enjoyment, and spur innovation in space travel.

These and many other ventures have one through line: they advance the vision of the late billionaire, philanthropist, and Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, "to make and leave the world a better place." It has been the job of Ivey and others who work at his management company, Vulcan, to help realize this vision and support Allen's ultimate legacy.

Ivey's work also conforms to her own vision for her career and the law. "I felt that becoming a lawyer was the path to do something meaningful and intellectually challenging with my life, to make a difference," she said.

As the third lawyer hired at Vulcan, Ivey rose to become general counsel, the company's top attorney, now leading a 25-person legal and compliance team. "Paul was an amazing thinker and

philanthropist. When he decided to do anything, it was my job to evaluate it from a legal perspective. It has been enormously gratifying to be a part of the interesting work at Vulcan that is helping to change the world," she said.

Over the course of two decades, Ivey developed specific legal expertise that she has applied to a range of business endeavors, philanthropic projects, and personal interests of Allen. These include legal services for high-net-worth families, art and cultural heritage law, and governance and compliance for tax-exempt philanthropic entities.

Allen's untimely death in 2018 ushered in a period of transition for the company he created. After her promotion to general counsel two years ago, Ivey stepped back from much of the day-to-day legal work to take a higher-level view of the legal landscape, with the goal of ensuring Vulcan is positioned to execute Allen's vision well into the future.

In the years since she graduated, Ivey has continued to realize her personal vision of making a difference by helping to prepare the next generation of lawyers. At Seattle U Law, she has taught

a popular course on art and cultural heritage law as an adjunct professor. Recently, she worked closely with Dean Annette Clark '89 to expand the Gregoire Fellows Program – which provides select law students with a law school scholarship, bar stipend, summer clerkship opportunities, and mentorship with former Gov. Christine Gregoire – to Seattle U Law. Vulcan has been a sponsor since the program's creation in 2015.

"Alison was instrumental in advocating for our law school to join this prestigious program aimed at diversifying the legal profession, and she was able to speak eloquently from her own experience about the high quality of our educational program and student body," Clark said.

"The legal profession as a whole is stronger when different points of view and backgrounds are represented, and in the Puget Sound region, we still have a long way to go. Having diverse law students and attorneys as part of our legal community makes us all better. I was proud to support the Gregoire Fellows Program before, but now it feels more complete with Seattle U Law as an enthusiastic participant under Dean Clark's leadership," Ivey said.

THE PEOPLE'S COURT

His childhood in Nigeria inspires Judge Edirin Okoloko '03 to lead with respect and civility in Snohomish County

BY CLAUDINE BENMAR

When Judge Edirin Okoloko '03 was a boy growing up in Nigeria, he dreamed of becoming a scientist like his father, a professor of molecular biology. But history intervened.

As a teenager, he watched the news in horror as the Nigerian military overthrew the government and installed a brutal dictatorship. He found hope for his country in lawyers, including the internationally lauded Gani Fawehinmi, who fought to hold the military accountable for its human rights abuses.

"That changed my mindset," Okoloko said. "It turned me toward a passion for the law. I studied the cases and the lawyers."

His appreciation of the importance of law was matched by a curiosity about the world, and he applied for the U.S. Diversity Visa lottery while a law student at University of Benin, in Nigeria. To his great surprise, he won the lottery. He secured a visa and immigrated to Seattle in 1999 after graduation, following a childhood friend who had immigrated the year prior.

Supporting himself with a full-time job selling men's clothing, Okoloko enrolled in the law school's evening program to earn a JD, choosing a second law degree in order to learn more about the U.S. legal system.

Given his life experiences, Okoloko naturally considered a career in international human rights law. "But sometimes life takes you in a different direction," he said. Instead, he began his career in 2004 in Snohomish County as a law clerk for Judge Michael Downes '82 (ret.). It was there that he discovered a meaningful way to honor the values that first sparked his interest in law, by maintaining a steadfast commitment to the constitution and rule of law.

Okoloko's dedication to fairness was evident early in his legal career, said

Downes. "He works so well with people because he's thoughtful and respectful of everybody. I'm sure I learned as much from him as he did from me."

After his one-year clerkship, Okoloko was recruited to the Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, where he served for 13 years. Gov. Jay Inslee appointed him to the Snohomish County Superior Court bench in 2018.

Okoloko believes that a judicial philosophy based on civility and respect builds faith in the legal system and helps people feel heard and comfortable in the courtroom. Similarly, he's active in the court's efforts to provide materials and services in languages other than English to make the legal system more inclusive.

"The Nigerian military ruled by decree, so the courts were ineffective. People were powerless," said Okoloko. "With what I'm doing now, I'm giving people the protections afforded to them by the constitution that I found lacking when I was growing up. That's what drives my quest for people to be treated fairly, with respect and with dignity."

Okoloko has engendered such respect among his peers that Inslee appointed him to the bench for a second time in January 2020, after he narrowly lost a 2019 election to retain his seat.

"Everyone who comes before the court deserves to be heard by a neutral, objective fact finder," he said. "That's what I strive to do every day. That's what my oath requires."





TAMING THE TECH GIANTS

BY JOHN B. KIRKWOOD

Attacks on the tech giants – Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google – have intensified and efforts to control the companies have begun. Congress is considering bills to restrict their behavior or break them up, and federal and state antitrust enforcers have filed multiple lawsuits. Numerous critics, from elected officials and small businesses to progressive advocates, contend that these corporate giants act like the robber barons of old, crushing competitors, exploiting consumers, and distorting the political process.

Antitrust initiatives, however, must confront a tradeoff. On the one

hand, the big tech firms dominate important sectors of the economy and have almost certainly engaged in anticompetitive conduct. On the other hand, their growth has been fueled in large part by the value placed on their products and services by millions of consumers. As a result, if antitrust actions are going to succeed, they have to be carefully targeted. Otherwise, the legal challenges may harm the very consumers they are supposed to protect.

The three most important antitrust initiatives focus on Google's payments for default status,

Facebook's purchases of emerging competitors, and Amazon's favoritism of its own products.

Default status (Google). The Department of Justice and numerous states recently sued Google for paying Apple, Samsung, Dell, and many other manufacturers to select Google as the default search engine on their devices. As a result, the plaintiffs argue, Google monopolizes both general search services and search advertising, reducing choices for consumers and inflating prices for advertisers.

Google famously claims that it lacks monopoly power because "competition is only a click away." But if default status has no impact on consumers – if they would readily switch to rival search engines – why does Google pay billions of dollars a year (allegedly \$8-12 billion to Apple alone) for default status? Google's payments, moreover, may be difficult to justify under the antitrust laws.

When firms such as Apple demand payments for default status, they are in effect auctioning off the default position on their devices to the highest bidder. That process would be good for consumers if the highest quality search engine normally won the bidding. But economics teaches that a firm with monopoly power has the incentive and the ability to outbid smaller rivals, even when those rivals offer better products.

Google's conduct, therefore, may exclude competitors without benefiting competition or consumers, thereby violating the antitrust laws. A straightforward remedy would be to ban the payments and let consumers select their default search engine. That would increase consumer choice, and if rival search engines such as Bing and

DuckDuckGo are truly superior, they would erode Google's market share and power.

Emerging competitors (Facebook). Critics often charge that monopolies buy up emerging rivals to ensure that they never become effective competitors. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and 46 states sued Facebook on this very theory, alleging that Facebook acquired the immensely popular social media apps Instagram and WhatsApp to eliminate emerging threats.

There is no doubt that Facebook viewed these apps as a competitive danger. Looking at emerging social networks like Instagram, CEO Mark Zuckerberg wrote: "The businesses are nascent but the networks are established, the brands are already meaningful and if they grow to a large scale they could be very disruptive to us." He warned that messaging apps like WhatsApp "are trying to build social networks and replace us."

Despite Zuckerberg's stated concerns, Facebook argues that WhatsApp and Instagram were unlikely to grow into full-scale social networks and that their success today reflects Facebook's investments in them, not what they would have achieved on their own. And in any event, these apps are now integrated into Facebook and could not be separated without years of expensive reprogramming.

In June, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia dismissed both complaints, a stinging defeat for the FTC and the states. Without ruling on the merits of the acquisitions, the court held that the FTC had failed at a threshold step: it did not properly plead that Facebook had monopoly power.

Likewise, the states' complaint was barred by laches (which does not apply to the FTC) because the acquisitions occurred in 2012 and 2014, many years before the complaint was filed. Although the FTC can try again and the states can appeal, existing antitrust law does not make it easy to challenge the tech giants.

Self-preferencing (Amazon). As a law student, Lina Khan excoriated Amazon for using its online platform to crush small rivals. Now that she is chair of the FTC, it is widely expected that the agency will take action against Amazon. One avenue is to issue a regulation that prohibits Amazon and other big tech platforms from favoring their own brands over third-party products sold on their platforms.

In concept, a rule against self-preferencing is appealing, but it would be unprecedented and may not survive a reviewing court. The FTC has never issued a major competition rule in its entire 107-year existence, let alone one that attempts to control the largest firms in the economy. Moreover, the rule could be overly intrusive, since it would have to allow platforms to impose different terms on third parties if they were more difficult or more costly to serve. Yet that would require the agency to specify and police the permissible differences – an intervention that may be a bridge too far for a conservative court.

All three initiatives target areas of legitimate competitive concern. The alleged tech giant conduct may have excluded rivals without justification, injuring them and harming consumers and possibly workers in the process. But all three face skeptical courts and legal and practical issues.



Professor John B. Kirkwood specializes in antitrust law and serves as an adviser to the American Antitrust Institute. His scholarly articles have received numerous awards and have appeared in top law journals.

CLASS NOTES



▲
JANE GOODMAN-DELAHUNTY '83

former Equal Employment Opportunity Commission administrative judge and psychologist, published a new book, "Understanding Sexual Harassment: Evidence-based Forensic Practice."

1976

Phil Hornik has joined the immigration law unit of Black Helderline LLP in Portland, Oregon, after more than 40 years practicing immigration law as a solo practitioner. He offers consultation in English and Spanish.

1978

The Honorable Cheri L. Filion retired in July 2016 as a United States administrative law judge. She then spent six weeks in France learning to speak French and has moved to Whidbey Island to enjoy the beach and island life. She has also been blessed with a grandson and, in June, a new granddaughter.

1981

Eileen M. Baratuci was appointed as a Jefferson County Superior Court Commissioner two years ago. As a longtime specialist in employment law, she has gained expertise in many other practice areas and has enjoyed this new and challenging responsibility. She and her husband bought a trawler to enjoy all the Salish Sea has to offer.

Mary Jo Manzanares has her first book coming out in fall 2021. "Secret Seattle: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful, and Obscure" is published by Reedy Press and covers the unique destinations, colorful history, and wacky legends that make the greater Seattle area such a popular destination.

1982

Anne Bremner's firm, Anne Bremner PC, obtained a \$98.5 million jury verdict in the case of *Cox v. State* on behalf of a family of children who were slain while in the care, custody, and control of Washington state.

1984

Peter J. Butch III was recognized by the IAM Patent 1000 and described as "a savvy prosecutor and sought-after opinion giver" who has "mastered all aspects of patent and contract law."

1985

The Honorable Carrie Runge retired from the Benton-Franklin Superior Court bench after more than 17 years of service.

1987

Colleen Hartl joined Seattle-based family law firm Goldberg Jones.

1992

Jeannie Moreno (Lopez) is now assistant general counsel for the Los Angeles Unified School District, a huge change from her previous career as a divorce attorney. She feels as though she just stepped out of law school, landed her first legal job, and is learning the ropes all over again. She now works from home and her commute went from two to three hours daily down to 10 seconds.

1993

Jeffrey Izzo, a veteran entertainment lawyer and

academic, has two books currently in the works: a copyright guide for musicians and a step-by-step guide to understanding and negotiating record contracts.

1994

Allison Steincipher Wallin became a real estate broker, joined Windermere at Yarrow Bay, and co-founded the Northwest Style Group real estate team, where she and her partner, a marketing CEO with 30 years affiliated with Microsoft, focus on selling and buying Eastside residential realty. In addition, she has a management-side employment practice as a partner with Raines Feldman.

1995

Shari Leid's second book in The Friendship Flow series, "Make Your Mess Your Message - More Life Lessons From and For My Girlfriends," is available in September 2021.

Kathy (Kim) Carpenter joined rewardStyle, Inc. d/b/a LTK as head of privacy for the digital marketing technology platform. She is based in Kirkland, Washington, with husband, Colin, and dog, Fergus.

1996



Mark Rosencrantz was named chair of Carney Badley Spellman's construction and commercial



litigation practice groups. His practice focuses on solving business, commercial, and construction disputes.

1997

Priya Sinha Cloutier joined the firm of Lucosky Brookman LLP, a full-service law firm, where she leads the intellectual property group.

Paul Schneiderman practices law as a solo attorney in Seattle, primarily handling personal injury cases, as well as civil and criminal law matters. He also hosts a show, “Sports Untold,” on the Rainier Avenue Radio network. His guests have included Gary Locke, Alan Dershowitz, Jennifer Cohen, Kenny Anderson, and many others who provide perspectives on sports law and other sports-related matters.

1999

Michele Walker was promoted to chief prosecuting attorney for the City of Kent, where she has worked for the last 21 years.

2000



Theo Myhre has been promoted to the rank of teaching professor at the

University of Washington School of Law, where he also received the Excellence in Graduate Education Award and the University of Washington’s Distinguished Teaching Award for the 2020-21 academic year.

2001

Leigh Christie was named CEO and executive director of Beam Founders in Austin, Texas. She formerly served as senior VP of global tech and innovation at the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce.

Katina Thornock joined Providence Health and Services as its first-ever vice president, senior litigation counsel. She previously led the litigation team at Starbucks Coffee Company.

Gail S. Yu retired from the Washington State Office of the Attorney General in June, after serving more than 17 years in the agriculture and health division.

2004

Elizabeth Baldwin was promoted to senior attorney at Kids in Need of Defense, where she carries her own caseload and coordinates the pro bono program with Microsoft volunteers. This summer she had the distinct pleasure of mentoring a great intern from Seattle U Law, Bobbi Fogle.

Theresa R. Lorella joined McKinley Irvin as a senior attorney in March 2020. She works as a family law attorney and is expanding her mediation practice.

Regina M. Paulose published “Green Crimes and International Criminal Law” with Vernon Press (US).

2005

Timothy Ashby’s nonfiction book, “Elizabethan Secret Agent: The

Untold Story of William Ashby (1536-1593),” will be published by Scotland Street Press in March 2022. The book is a biography of William Ashby, an Elizabethan-era lawyer, spy, and diplomat who served as English ambassador to Scotland during the Spanish Armada crisis of 1588.

Sara (Lingafelter) Lobkovich relaunched her consulting and coaching practice under a new identity, Red Currant Collective, which works with organizations and individuals wired for purpose, progress, and change. She and her husband, Chris, own Counter Weight Motorsport, a bespoke motorcycle service shop and race team based in Burien, Washington.

2006

Jason Schwarz received a 2020 President’s Award from the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, recognizing “achievement in

SANDRA (SANDY) BROWN '98

received the 2020 Citizen of the Year Award for outstanding and dedicated service to the community from the Wayne Area Chamber of Commerce in Wayne, Nebraska. Brown retired from the law in 2010 when she moved away from Seattle and now works part-time as the marketing director for State Nebraska Bank and Trust, her husband’s family-owned bank for five generations.



CLASS NOTES

LIZAMARIE MOHAMMED '14

joined Rhia Ventures as their senior program associate, where she advances sexual, reproductive, and maternal health policies. She formerly worked at the Guttmacher Institute and Catholics for Choice. **Keith Masill '14** is the acting director of the state, international, and public affairs division at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. They have a toddler in tow and a second on the way.



a particular case or series of related cases, or longtime service to the criminal defense bar.”

2007

Ryan Prosser was named assistant principal at McCarver Elementary School (part of Tacoma Public Schools) after serving as an interim assistant principal at Jason Lee Middle School for the 2020-21 school year.

Christine Slattery joined Miller Nash’s employment law team in Portland, Oregon. She advises Oregon and Washington employers on day-to-day employment matters and compliance issues and conducts workplace investigations and trainings.

2008

Duncan Butcher, partner at Miller Nash Graham Dunn, was selected to serve on the Seattle Aquarium Board of Directors. Butcher has served on the aquarium’s auxiliary board since 2015, including a term as vice chair.



Kathryn (Kayti) Knudsen is an attorney at Ruiz and Smart, PLLC, where she

represents policyholders in insurance recovery and bad-faith litigation, the severely injured, and victims of discrimination and harassment. Knudsen also serves as a mediator with Pacific ADR, LLC.

2009

Andrew Hughes reached the summit of Mount Everest

on May 23, completing the Seven Summits (reaching the highest point on every continent). During the two-month Everest expedition, he raised thousands of dollars for Human Rights Watch, carried out an online education project he created called “Everest for All,” and proposed to his girlfriend, Lauren Beard, on the summit.

2011

Brian Cheng became a shareholder at Owen Bird Law Corporation in Vancouver, B.C., where he is a civil litigator in the areas of commercial and insurance law.

Emily Gause received a 2020 President’s Award from the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, recognizing “achievement in a particular case or series of related cases, or longtime service to the criminal defense bar.”

Tye Graham was promoted to chief prosecutor for the City of Olympia. He leads the city’s prosecution division while also advising the Olympia Police Department and other city departments on criminal law matters.



Michelle Pham, partner at Helsell Fetterman LLP in Seattle, was

honored with a Top 40 Young Lawyers Award from the American Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division.

Lauren Parris Watts joined Seyfarth’s labor and

employment department in Seattle. Parris Watts was most recently a partner at Seattle law firm Helsell Fetterman.

2013

Chanele Brothers Reyes joined the Austin, Texas, office of Bowman and Brooke LLP in December 2020. She specializes in product liability defense with a primary focus on pharmaceutical and medical device cases.

2014

Jonathan Nichols joined the in-house legal team at Sound Transit. He advises the agency on land use matters as it plans and builds the most ambitious transit expansion in the country.

Natalie Reber was selected as the executive director for Attain Housing after a nationwide search. Reber leads the organization in a time of growth and great need in the community. Attain Housing provides affordable housing and eviction prevention services in King County, Washington.

2015

Amanda Elyse returned to Seattle U Law to teach in the Legal Writing Program as a visiting assistant professor.

John Hardie became managing attorney of the personal injury team at Palace Law in January 2021. He was named a Rising Star in Super Lawyers magazine for two years in a row and received the Washington State Association for Justice’s New Lawyer Award before that. In August 2020, Hardie and his



wife, Evelyn, welcomed their daughter, Ariela.



Molly Peach Matter, after years of investigation and outreach with the Latino

Community Fund, partnered with UCLA Voting Rights Project to file a federal Voting Rights Act claim against Yakima County, Benton County, and Chelan County for racial disparity in ballot rejections. She is grateful to be working with community organizations, voters, academics, and lawyers to fight the good fight.

Carlen McKee and Ariana Orford '19 run the Legal Hope Program at The WAVE Foundation, providing legal support to survivors of sex trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. They worked with Washington State Sen. Manka Dhingra last session on SB 5180, changing the law to make it easier for survivors to clear criminal records that are a result of their victimization.

2016

Emma Aubrey joined Fong Law, PLLC in February 2020, practicing criminal defense and plaintiff's personal injury law. In January 2021, she received the Humanitarian of the Year award from the Kitsap County Bar Association for her commitment to public service. She also second chaired her first civil trial, resulting in a \$91 million verdict.

Paul Heer received the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from the King County Bar Association (2020-2021) and was

also awarded the Washington State Bar Association's 2021 Outstanding Young Lawyer APEX Award.

Jason Stover is corporate counsel at Abett, a health information startup helping employers manage their employees' health and data more effectively. He was formerly an IT contracts manager at Providence St. Joseph Health and contract counsel at MultiCare Health System.

2019

Galen Cheney joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California as an Assistant U.S. Attorney through the Department of Justice Attorney General's Honors Program in August 2021.

Tyler McKenzie Wade works in technology policy for a Fortune 100 company. He connects company leadership to policy stakeholders, including members of royalty, heads of state, international lawmakers and ambassadors, and organizations such as the World Health Organization. He covers a wide range of topics including data privacy, technology and innovation, safety and expression, election integrity, misinformation, economic opportunity, and strengthening communities.

2020

Rebecca Dellicker won first place in the American Kennel Club's Companion Animal Law writing contest, with what was the very last paper of her law school career.

IN MEMORIAM



Donald W. Winskill '78 died on March 7, 2021, in Tacoma. A lifelong Tacoma resident and an active outdoorsman, Winskill was a member of the Washington State Bar Association, the Tacoma-

Pierce County Bar Association, the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and the Washington Defenders Association. Early in his career, he served as a Pierce County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, where he materially contributed to the establishment of one of the nation's earliest sexual assault units, coordinating resources of prosecution, law enforcement, and social service agencies. He brought to his cases high forensic skill, integrity, professionalism, and a strong sense of justice.



Jon Erik Schorsch '14, a retired police sergeant, died on June 5, 2021, at the age of 52 from complications of injuries sustained from a boating accident in 2006.

The accident, which left Schorsch blind, led to pivotal changes in his life. After his hospitalization and rehabilitation, he earned a Master of Public Administration from Seattle University in 2011. He then pursued a law degree, graduating as the law school's first completely blind JD recipient. He was active with the Volunteers of America-Dispute Resolution Center and had recently finished the Human Resource Management Certificate Program at Lake Washington Institute of Technology.





Mary Sue Zylstra Cummings '21 died in July 2021 after a courageous two-year effort to live through carcinoid cancer. She had completed two years of law school and received an honorary JD this

year. Prior to law school, Cummings taught for both private and public schools in the Kennewick area, working with countless children of all ages as a substitute and full-time fourth grade teacher. She graduated from UW Tacoma with a bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and from Pacific Lutheran University with a Master of Education.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter [@seattleulaw](#)

 **Brooke Pinkham** is at **Seattle University School of Law.** 

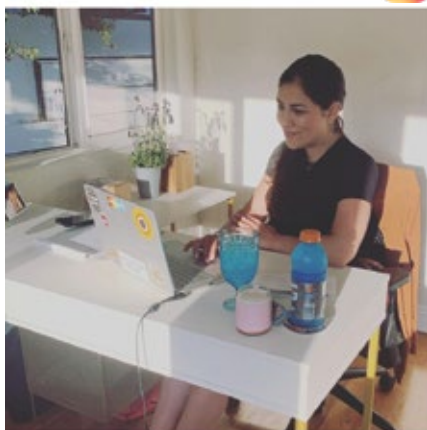
May 15 · Seattle · 🌐

Graduation day for our law students at SU. I feel like these guys should get an extra special treat for doing law school pure Zoom. 🎓👏 (Poster by Avi)



 You, Cindy Yeung and 72 others · 3 Comments

 **contractnerds** 



 Liked by magdacejsal and 84 others

contractnerds Contract Nerds is officially being taught in law schools! 🎓

Professor Maja Larson has added our blog and my articles on Contract Redlining Etiquette to the syllabus of her In-House Counsel summer course at my alma mater [@seattleulaw](#). 📖👏

Last night, I spoke to her [#lawstudents](#) about [#contracts](#) and [#redlines](#) and it was an absolute blast!

One of my goals with creating Contract Nerds was to fill the glaring gaps in both the legal industry and legal education. 🙌👏

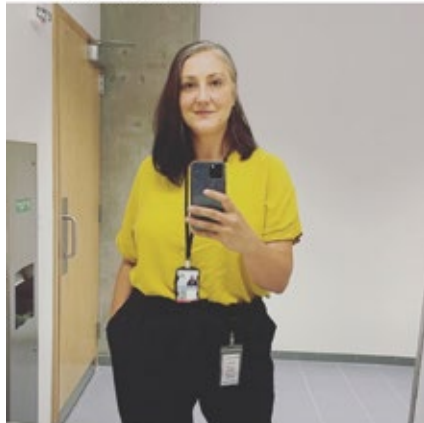
This proves that we are doing just that. 🙌

 **Julia Doherty** [@juliap...](#) 

Just finished the last assigned reading of my first year of law school, which I've done entirely online!

Taking a small moment to celebrate!

 **ni.na.bee** Bothell, Washington 



 Liked by wilson_jamie23 and 57 others

ni.na.bee Several hours before my first trial 😬. I look calm but i am not lol. Send help! [#rule9](#) [#lawstudent](#)

 **Christopher M. Sanders** [@onlybormonce](#) 

I am entering my 8th year of practicing law.

Spent the entire time fighting for our most vulnerable community members and I do not regret one second of it.



 **Bianca Tillman** is at **Seattle University School of Law.** 

Apr 29 · Seattle · 🌐

Last day of school vibes 🎓👏

 Occupied Coast Salish Territory

Marcella R. Photography [#almosquire](#) [#futurelawyer](#)



 194

36 Comments

 **Brooke Coleman** [@profbcoleman](#) 

Humbled by this award.

And full of gratitude for my [@seattleulaw](#) students & colleagues. I learn so much from them. Every. Single. Day.

 **Seattle U Law School** [@se...](#) · 6/7/21

Congratulations to [@profbcoleman](#) for receiving the [@seattleu](#) 2020-2021 Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching for Tenure/Tenure Track Faculty! Prof Coleman is a rock star 🌟

 **erinfullner** 



 24 likes

erinfullner My time was not respectable, but I did Seattle U Rec's 5K in honor of my recent grads 🏃. [#seattleulaw2021](#)

I ran, and there were no wild animals chasing me. So, my students, in case there was any doubt, I love you—I really do ❤️❤️

 **Amanda Elyse** [@amanda_elyse_](#) 

Officially back teaching in the Legal Writing Program at [@seattleulaw](#)! Excited to work with, support, and learn from my new students and colleagues.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING

JUSTICE IN ACTION

For the past 28 years, the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) at Seattle University School of Law has raised funds for summer grants to support law students working in unpaid legal internships with organizations serving marginalized communities. These organizations serve immigrants, domestic violence survivors, and those who lack access to justice. Together with your support, we exceeded our goal! **PILF's 28th Annual Fundraiser "Justice in Action"** raised over **\$100,000** to support these efforts.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us next year on **March 5, 2022** for
PILF's 29th Annual Fundraiser



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Our program includes:

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- » Monthly meetings with Executive Director, Stan Perkins, to discuss topics relating to running a successful law practice
- » One-year free subscription to Clio
- » One-year free membership to PLI for unlimited CLEs
- » Free use of downtown Seattle office for mail service, client meetings, etc.
- » Networking opportunities
- » Access to a roster of over 60 dynamic Incubator alumni for their support, friendship, client referrals, etc.

If you have questions, please contact Stan Perkins at 206-467-0701 or ATJI at 206-398-4173 or atji@seattleu.edu.

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